

**IPID COMMITTEE  
MARCH 12, 2009  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Cindy Koprowski, Susan Andrews, John Wirkus, Elaine Wick, Rose Barton, Bernie Mangers, Jose Ruiz, Erika Wisk, Brad Schimel

**Introduction of Members and Guests**

**Presentation**

Barry Cohen, Defense Attorney from Melowski and Cohen, S.C., presented on the OWI process from the client first seeking out legal counsel through the court proceedings. Mr. Cohen stated that there is an increasing number of clients who cannot afford an attorney nor do they meet the criteria for help from the Public Defenders Office. In Wisconsin the first offense OWI is not a criminal offense; however, Mr. Cohen states that in Wisconsin we have a high number of OWI charges that are prosecuted and convicted of the OWI. Other states have deferred prosecution and or first time offender programs so a person can defer their conviction. Mr. Cohen's typical client is male, in his 40's, has a decent job and is worried about losing his job. A typical fee for services at Melowski and Cohen, S.C. is about \$10,000.

Discussion followed.

**New Business**

Jose Ruiz asked that the next presentation be from the prosecution side of court. Brad Schimel was asked if someone from his department might be able to fill that request.

**Old Business**

Brad Schimel was asked if it might be possible to fill a committee seat from his department.

**Chair Report**

The Department of Transportation has designated a new member according to Susan Andrews. Approved September applicants, Lake Country Counseling and Lakefront Wellness Center for Intoxicated Driver Approval.

**Adjournment**

Minutes recorded by Jose Ruiz and Dawn Cagney

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date